



2019 Gratitude Report



Credit Valley
Conservation
FOUNDATION

Table of Contents

2	Welcome
3	Our Watershed
4	Who We Are
5	2019 Donor Impact Showcase:
6	Contributions to Credit Valley Conservation
7	Credit Valley Trail Land Securement
8	Conservation Youth Corps
9	Island Lake Natural Playground
10	Engaging our Communities
11	Nature-based Stormwater Solutions
12	Low Impact Development Training
13	Fundraising Events:
14	Curling Bonspiel
15	Conservation Gala
16	Bass Derby
17	Canoe the Credit
18	Trail Donation Day
19	Thank You to Our Generous Supporters
22	2019 Financial Statements

Welcome

Our watershed abounds with natural beauty and near endless opportunities to explore, connect and enjoy. Our communities continue to grow, and the need to preserve, protect and enhance our natural environment is now even more acute.

Nature inspires us and fills us with gratitude, which underpins everything we do at Credit Valley Conservation Foundation. We're grateful for our role as protectors, connectors and advocates for change. But above all, we're grateful for our generous donors, funders and supporters who enable our partner, Credit Valley Conservation (CVC), to lead that change.

We're excited to present our 2019 Gratitude Report, outlining how your contributions impact our shared community and environment.

2019 concludes the fourth year of our five-year, \$5 million Protect, Connect, Sustain Campaign. We're thrilled to report that as of December 31, 2019, your generosity raised \$5.43 million, exceeding our campaign goal. With one year remaining, we're inspired by the continual need to do more for our environment and the communities we serve.

Thanks to our incredible donors, funders and sponsors, we raised \$1,840,498 and made a \$1,606,518 contribution to CVC programs and projects in 2019. Additionally, as of December 31, 2019, we held \$611,156 in trust for future contributions for critical environmental restoration projects, land acquisition and more.

With the support of our donors, partners, Board and volunteers, we are ready for the challenges that lay ahead of us in the years to come. As always, our thanks and gratitude to you.

With warm regards,



Karen Ras, *Chair*



Terri LeRoux,
Executive Director

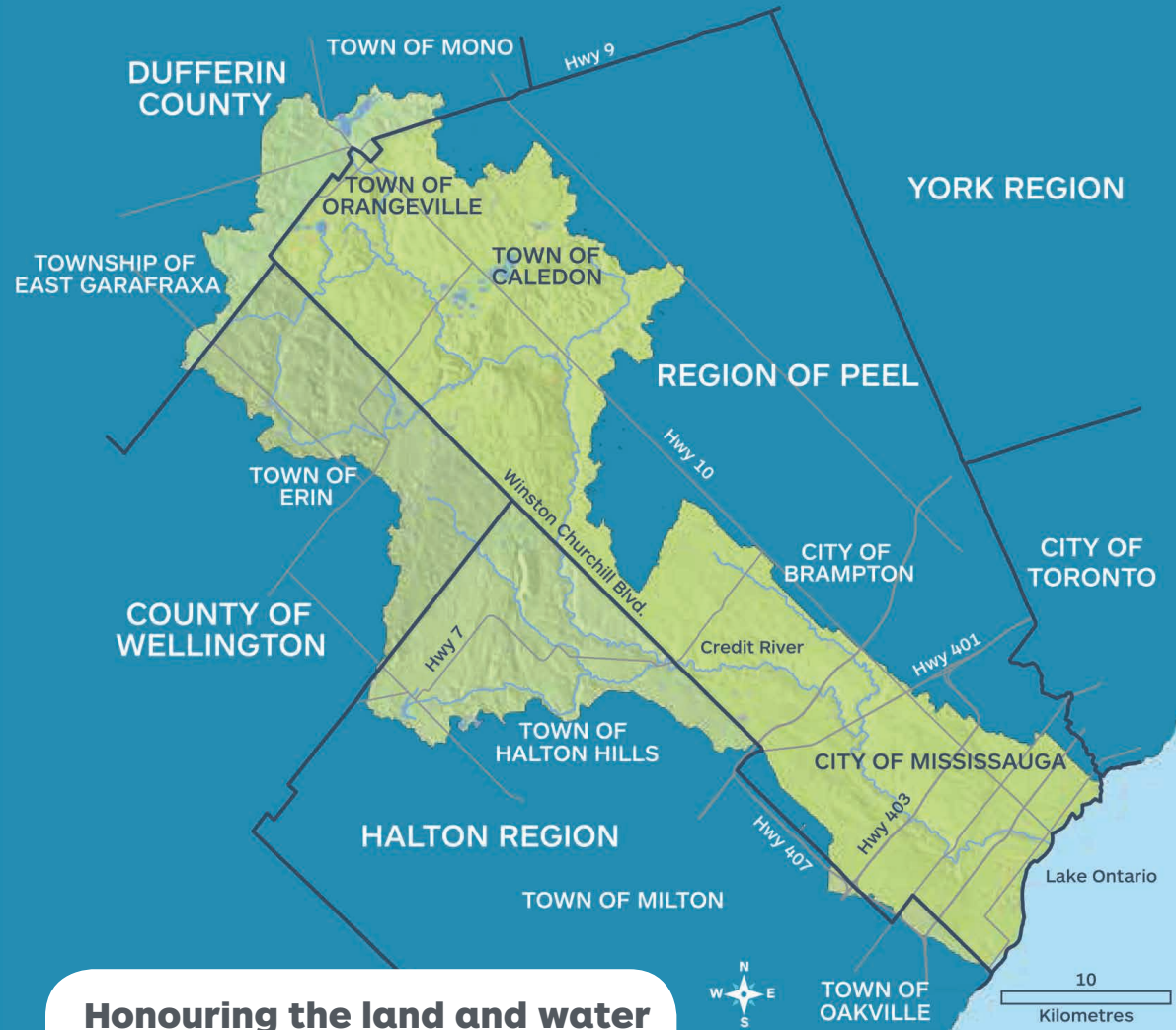
Our Watershed

Situated within one of the most-densely populated regions of Canada, the Credit River Watershed contains some of the most diverse landscapes in southern Ontario. In this area, the Carolinian Forest zone meets the Deciduous Forest zone, both of which contain unique species not found in other zones.

The Niagara Escarpment and the Oak Ridges Moraine also run through the watershed, further increasing the number and diversity of plants, animals and communities. The Credit River is almost 90 kilometres long and meanders south-east from its headwaters in Orangeville, Erin and Mono, through nine municipalities, eventually draining into Lake Ontario at Port Credit, Mississauga.



The Credit River is home to a wide range of wildlife including 244 bird species, 64 fish species, 41 species of mammals, five species of turtles, eight kinds of snakes, 17 amphibians (frogs, toads, salamanders and newts) and 1,330 plant species. The Credit River is the most diverse cold-water fishery in Ontario, if not eastern North America.



Honouring the land and water

As we work to further our mission we are reminded of the rich history and enduring presence of Indigenous peoples as stewards of the land and water of the Credit River Watershed.

We acknowledge that the Credit River Watershed is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The Credit River Watershed is also the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Métis and, most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

As citizens, we continue to be party to the treaties made with Indigenous peoples. We affirm that this land and water are our common source of life and we must all share in their stewardship and prosperity, now and for future generations.

Who We Are

Credit Valley Conservation Foundation is a registered environmental charity.

Our Mission

To raise funds and awareness in support of the conservation projects carried out by our partner, Credit Valley Conservation, that protect, connect and sustain the health and well-being of the watershed and its communities.

Our 2019 Board of Directors

- Karen Ras. *Chair*
- Ed Arundell. *Vice-Chair*
- Jim Muscat, *Past Chair*
- Deborah Martin-Downs
Secretary-Treasurer
- Bob Atkinson
- Bobby Sahni
- Brad Fauteux
- Dave Dyce
- Ellen McGregor
- Jean Williams
- Johanna Downey
- John Farrell
- Lance Secretan
- Michael Palleschi
- Mike Walker

Our Staff

- Terri LeRoux
Executive Director
- Celeste Longhurst
Acting Program Manager
- Maggie Janik
Grants Coordinator
- Sharlene Hardwar
Community Fundraising Coordinator

We are generously supported by


69
Corporate
Partners


717
Individuals
& Families


34
Community
Organizations


8
Government
Partners


137
In-kind
Donors


963
Event
Guests

2019 Donor Impact Showcase



Contributions to Credit Valley Conservation

\$214,575



**Parks &
Conservation Areas**

\$506,749



**Credit Valley
Trail**

\$194,078



**Environmental
Education**

\$245,897



**Environmental
Restoration**

\$445,219



**Climate Change /
Low Impact Development**



Credit Valley Trail Land Securement

2019 Contribution

\$488,249

Once in lifetime, a property becomes available that is essential for Credit Valley Conservation to connect communities along the Credit River. Thanks to our generous donor community, CVC was able to acquire a spectacular 44-acre property in the heart of Caledon, along the upper reaches of the Credit River.


Referred to as our “Capstone”, the property is the inaugural land securement for the Credit Valley Trail and the missing piece of the puzzle, enabling public access to Charles Sauriol Conservation Area.

The property includes critical Brook Trout habitat, the watershed’s most important native fish species.

Partially forested with the Credit River meandering through, the property includes stunning cedar forests and rich biodiversity – a true natural jewel that is now protected forever.



CVC and its partners are creating a continuous 100 kilometre trail along the banks of the Credit River, from Orangeville to Port Credit. Acquiring the Capstone property secures 650 metres the trail route and connects a continuous 8.5 kilometre stretch of trail.



Conservation Youth Corps

2019 Contribution

\$156,128

Thanks to the support of our generous donors, 3,052 youth from our watershed communities took part in CVC's youth volunteer programs in 2019. The program engages and inspires young residents through hands-on environmental stewardship experience and connects them with their local natural environment. Activities include tree planting, building and maintaining trails, building bird boxes, creating habitat structures, invasive species removal and stream restoration.

The program has been fostering youth environmental awareness since 2006 and now offers three streams. The CYC summer program, where students can earn volunteer hours while participating in week-long work terms in conservation. The Branch Out program enhances the high school science and

geography curriculum, and raises awareness about climate change. Frontline helps high school students to stay involved through training, workshops and job-shadowing, inspiring youth to be the next generation of environmental leaders.



*Deon Singh participated in the CYC summer program in 2017. Like so many, it sparked a passion for the natural world. He felt inspired to join the Frontline program where he acts as an ambassador in his community, encouraging others to take environmental action. His dedication to the environment was recently recognized with a Lieutenant Governor's Award and Young Heritage Leader scholarship. **Congratulations Deon!***



Island Lake Natural Playground

2019 Contribution
\$160,000

Thanks to generous support from Friends of Island Lake, Orangeville Lions Club and Rotary Club of Orangeville, construction is nearing completion for the natural playground at Island Lake Conservation Area. The innovative playground is designed to help connect children to the local natural environment, encourage physical outdoor play and to deepen community cohesion by enhancing quality of life for residents and visitors.

The 1.17 acre nature-inspired playground will incorporate natural elements like plants, water, logs, boulders and terrain, with built-in play structures to provide different sensory experiences and diverse play opportunities.

It will provide an opportunity for kids to engage in unstructured playtime that encourages discovery. The playground will also feature a fully accessible loop trail with nature-themed play pods, that will connect into the existing Island Lake trail system. In winter months, the 2.5-metre-wide playground trail will offer skating and skiing, for all ages to enjoy.

The new playground incorporates Indigenous design elements that will showcase local cultural heritage, and was developed in consultation with our local Indigenous community partners, the Credit River Métis Council.



Engaging our Communities

2019 Contribution
\$190,358

Each year, CVC engages our incredible community and corporate partners, true leaders in conservation, in meaningful tree planting and restoration work. It's a wonderful team building exercise, all for a great cause, while signalling a strong commitment to the local environment.

In 2019, we engaged 2,125 corporate and community participants through 39 events. Together, they planted 7,372 native trees and shrubs, and restored 37,821 m² of land. New for 2019, we assessed 68 past tree planting sites with a handful of dedicated volunteers, checking to see if seedlings were thriving or in need of assistance. This ensures accountability to our funders for their investment in the local environment.





Nature-based Stormwater Solutions

2019 Contribution
\$184,349

Our communities are confronted by the challenges of growth, climate change and aging infrastructure. Innovative ways to manage stormwater, such as nature-based solutions, have proven to be cost-effective, sustainable and support public health, the economy and the environment.

Thanks to our generous supporters, CVC is piloting a community-based approach to stormwater management in Mississauga's Southdown area, focusing on infrastructure that rests solely on private lands.

Working outside of municipally-owned infrastructure presents opportunities to bring neighbouring landowners

together to solve persistent problems with localized flooding. If successful in the long run, the approach can revolutionize stormwater management, creating a more decentralized system with low impact development features that mimic nature, with less reliance on traditional stormwater infrastructure.

This means better flood control and more resilient communities in the face of extreme weather brought on by climate change.



Low Impact Development Training

2019 Contribution

\$90,933

CVC has long been recognized as a leader in low impact development - an approach to stormwater management that captures rainwater where it falls and filters it into the ground. Partnering with like-minded conservation authorities through the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP), CVC continues to revolutionize research, guidelines and training related to urban water issues.

As our climate continues to change, the frequency of extreme weather events increases. Low impact development techniques make our communities more resilient and able to withstand flooding and extreme weather.

Thanks to our generous supporters, CVC was able to expand its low impact development training, offering additional opportunities to share knowledge, expertise and guidance with a greater number of industry professionals.

In addition to in-class training, new training modules and tools were made available online and on demand, increasing the potential to reach a broader audience throughout the Province of Ontario. CVC trained 979 individuals in-class, 605 online and reached 11,933 through online video tutorials.

2019 Fundraising Events





3rd Annual Curling Bonspiel

For the third year in a row, CVC staff volunteered to host the much-loved bonspiel on behalf of the CVC Foundation. Together, 64 curlers gathered at the Acton Curling Club for a fun day of on the ice, raising \$4,000 for conservation initiatives in the Credit River Watershed.

Open to expert and beginner curlers alike, this year featured a retro 80s theme and featured a bucket auction, toonie toss, and paper airplane competition. Thank you to everyone who came out to curl, to all those who helped organize and run the event!



14th Annual Conservation Gala



2019 was a fabulous year for our Conservation Gala. Together, 368 guests raised over \$293,000 in support of the Credit Valley Trail, Conservation Youth Corps and land securement. Held at Lionhead Golf Club and Conference Centre in Brampton, the gala kicked-off with a cocktail reception and live Birds of Prey experience, followed by an exquisite three-course dinner. Layne the Auctionista brought the fun and loosened the purse strings during the live auction and fund-a-need “philanthro-tainment”. Guests showed their support through the silent auction featuring 118 unique items and experiences.

Since 2006, the Conservation Gala has raised over \$2.2 million in support of CVC projects and initiatives that enhance the local environment for present and future generations. Each year corporate leaders, individual donors and municipal representatives attend the Conservation Gala.



11th Annual Island Lake Bass Derby

In July, the Friends of Island (FOIL) Lake hosted their Annual Bass Derby at Island Lake Conservation Area. Nearly 300 anglers showed up to the signature event in the Headwaters region. Along with generous sponsors, they raised over \$32,000 for important projects and infrastructure enhancements throughout the park.

The derby is an opportunity for avid and beginner anglers to hone their skills, connect with nature and enjoy some healthy competition for a great cause. \$5,000 in big catch prizes were on the line for the top 10 Bass and the top Pike, Perch, and Crappie.

Way to go Francesco Albanese for taking the first place kids prize with the largest Bass. Congratulations to Mark Bonello for reeling in the this year's biggest Bass (4.22 lbs and 17.7"), netting the grand prize of \$2,500!



11th Annual Canoe the Credit



2019 was a record-breaking year for Canoe the Credit. In total, 206 participants paddled hard for conservation in a twelve-team triple-elimination dragon boat race. The event raised over \$29,000 through sponsorships, team registrations and participant fundraising efforts.

Held at the Mississauga Canoe Club. The event is an opportunity for corporate teams to demonstrate their commitment to the local environment while enjoying a full day of team building on the river.

Congratulations to Peel Regional Police 11 and 12 Division for successfully defending their first-place champion title. Special shout-out to Lakeview Community Partners for earning the Most Spirited Team award for outstanding fundraising efforts.



Island Lake Trail Donation Day

The Friends of Island Lake (FOIL) hosted their annual Trail Donation Day in support of our natural playground project, which will help connect kids with nature, inspire unstructured play and encourage outdoor exploring. FOIL volunteers collected donations from trail users.

Since 2005, FOIL has worked with us to help raise more than \$2.6 million in donations to complete accessible trails and new infrastructure at Island Lake Conservation Area. The number of people using the park has exploded since July 2015 when the final bridges, generously supported by FOIL, were installed on the Vicki Barron Lakeside Trail. The bridges created a full trail loop around Island Lake. Last year more than 220,000 people visited the park.



Thank You to Our Generous Supporters

\$100,000+

- Government of Canada
- Swim Drink Fish Canada
- The Humeniuk Family Foundation & TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley
- The Neptis Foundation

\$50,000 – \$99,999

- Estate of Marie Blazic
- Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
- United Parcel Service Foundation

\$25,000 – \$49,999

- Canon Canada Inc.
- EcoSpark
- Government of Ontario
- Jim & Micheline Muscat
- Lakeview Community Partners Ltd.
- RBC Foundation
- Rotary Club of Orangeville
- TAKLA Foundation
- TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

- 407 ETR Concession Company Ltd.
- Alectra Utilities
- Biogen
- DG Group
- Martin Rudd
- Orangeville Lions Club
- Port Credit Community Foundation
- Port Credit West Village Partners
- Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands
- Toronto Zoo
- Tree Canada

\$5,000 – \$9,999

- Aquatech DeWatering
- Dods & McNair Funeral Home & Chapel
- Enbridge Gas Distribution
- Fieldgate Land Development Ltd.
- Forests Ontario
- Groundwater Environmental Management
- Karen Ras
- NAK Design Strategies Inc.
- Patagonia Environmental Grants Fund of Tides Foundation
- Samsung Electronics Canada
- Schneider Electric Canada Inc.
- Shoreplan Engineering
- Suncor Energy
- Sunshine Design & Construction
- Urbantech Consulting
- Woodbine Cares
- WWF - Canada

\$1,000 – \$4,999

- Babette & Gord Buck
- Benevity Community Impact Fund
- Bourk Boyd
- Brock Aggregates
- Bullfrog Power
- Canada Lands Company
- Churchville Estates Inc.
- County of Dufferin
- CRH Canada Group Inc.
- Deborah Martin-Downs
- Dillon Consulting Ltd.
- Doug Allworth
- Dufferin Northern Peel Anglers & Hunters
- Earthco Soil Mixtures
- EcoSource
- Ed Arundell
- Elizabeth Halpenny
- Erin Mills Development Corporation
- Fielding Environmental
- G. Liang
- G. Yoon Kim
- Gardiner Roberts LLP
- Geoffrey Liang
- Glen Schnarr & Associates Inc.
- Hayden Matthews
- Hillary Marshall
- Homes In The Hills Inc.
- J. Matthews
- Jackman Foundation
- Jean & Derek Williams
- Johanna Downey
- Joy Fox
- Leah Pressey
- Lisa Benedetto
- M. Torres
- Mark Preston
- Mark Tarras
- Mattamy Homes
- Mayfield McLaughlin Development
- Melrose Investments Inc.
- N. Gorr
- Nicole Pack
- O. James
- Patricia Chang
- Paul Villard
- Petro Canada Lubricants Inc.
- R & M Construction
- R. J. Burnside & Associates
- Rodrigo Alafriz
- Roman Humeniuk
- Sandy Dal Zotto
- Sasha Schaeffer
- Schaeffer & Associates
- Shari Faulkenham
- SpringBrook Estates Inc.
- T. Mulcahy
- Terrance & Wendy Carter
- TFP Clockwork Developments Inc.
- The Benevity Community Impact Fund
- The Community Foundation of Mississauga
- Town of Caledon
- Tutelary Productions ULC
- Victoria Stefaniak
- Wildlife Habitat Canada
- Wood PLC

\$500 – \$999

- A. Phillips
- Brad Pinnell
- Brian Sutherland
- Brookfield Residential
- Dave & Marilyn Dyce
- Don & Eha Naylor
- Douglas Markoff
- E. Birks
- Entomological Society of Ontario
- Gaggan Gill
- Grant Peters
- GTAA Partners in Project Green
- Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd.
- IG Wealth Management
- J. Hutton
- J. Vanstralen
- Jean Bowman
- Julia Kole
- K. Thajer
- Kenneth Peel
- Lisa Canzona
- Lorenzo D’Urso
- M. Braun
- M. Chantler
- Matt Mahoney
- Ontario Trails Council
- Opus Homes
- Paul Murphy
- Precise Parklink
- Robert Shirley
- Robert Upshall
- Rodeo Management Group Inc.
- Russell Clark
- Sal Spitale
- Silvano Tardella
- Slimers Canada
- The Kaneff Group of Companies
- Vicki Barron

In-kind donations valued at \$500+

- 407 ETR Concession Company Limited
- Artage Portraits
- Barbara Ariss-Stroh Wasser
- Burt’s Bees
- Country 105
- DriveTeq.ca
- Ed Arundell
- Fielding Environmental
- Forks of the Credit Inn
- FRAM Building Group
- G&L Group
- Gro-Bark / GB Stone
- Harry Milanowski
- Igne Kremer
- Jim Muscat
- Lavender Blue Catering
- Lionhead Golf & Country Club
- Lush
- Maple Leafs Sports & Entertainment
- Michele Taras
- Mississauga Golf & Country Club
- Nestle Waters Canada
- Parson Florist
- Rebecca Stewart
- Sportsnet
- TACC Developments
- Warren’s Waterless Printing
- Zulu Nyala

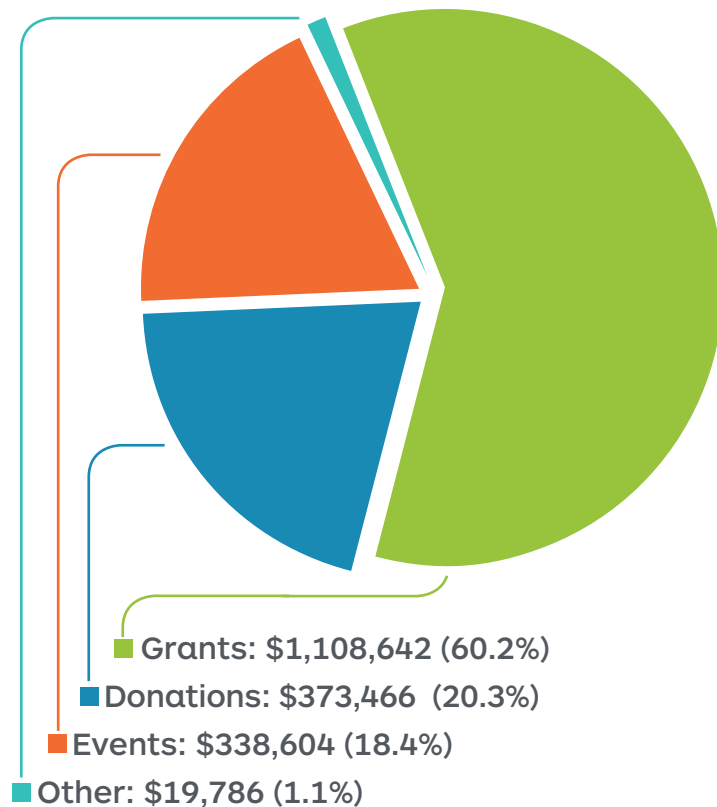
2019 Financial Statements

Financial highlights for the year ended December 31, 2019.

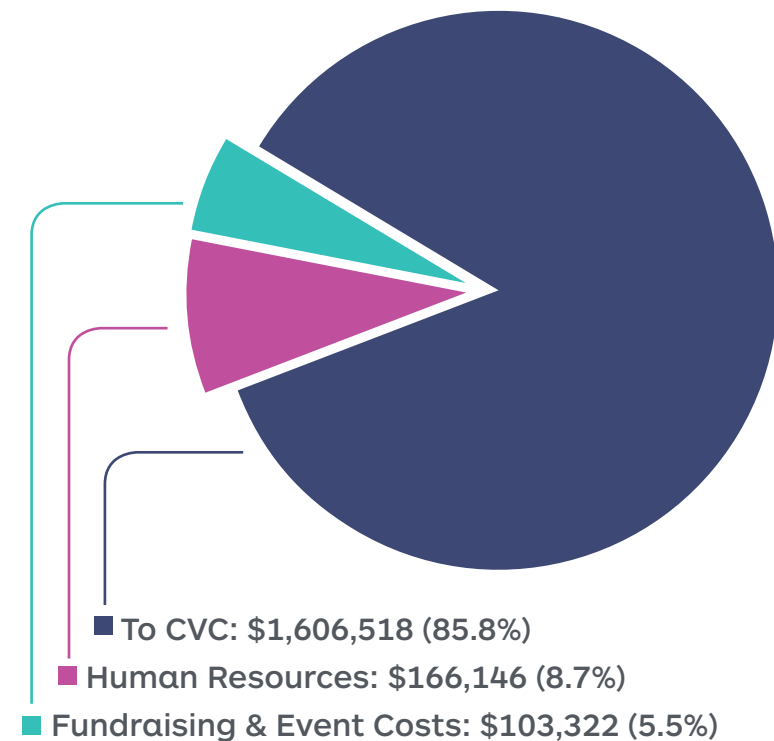
CVC Foundation is committed to the highest standards of accountability and transparency.

To view the audited financial statements, please visit: cvcfoundation.ca/publications

Total Revenue: \$1,840,498



Total Expenditures: \$1,871,413



Credit Valley Conservation Foundation

1255 Old Derry Road, Mississauga, ON L5N 6R4

Toll Free: 1-800-668-5557

Email: foundation@cvc.ca

Web: cvcfoundation.ca

Charitable Registration #118879048RR0001



**Credit Valley
Conservation
FOUNDATION**